

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An arbitration method of a bus bridge  
which interfaces a primary-side bus with a plurality of  
secondary side buses, the primary-side bus being a local  
bus in a system and the secondary-side buses being  
10 external buses connected to the system, the bus bridge  
supporting a plurality of kinds of operations one of  
which is an operation related to a serial bus in  
accordance with IEEE1394, the arbitration method  
comprising the step of giving an access right equally to  
15 each of the secondary-side buses, when access demands to  
the primary-side bus are lodged from more than two of  
the secondary-side buses at the same time, by not giving  
a priority to any one of the secondary-side buses.

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2. The arbitration method as claimed in claim  
1, wherein one of the secondary-side buses is the serial  
bus in accordance with IEEE1394, and the rest of the  
25 secondary-side buses are card buses.

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maintaining the access right given to the serial bus in accordance with IEEE1394 when an access demand is lodged from the secondary-side buses other than the serial bus in accordance with IEEE1394.

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4. ~~The arbitration method as claimed in claim~~  
2, wherein the secondary-side buses include a plurality  
of card buses, and the arbitration method comprising the  
steps of:

performing an arbitration between the card  
buses when an access right is to be given to one of the  
~~card busses.~~

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